



BRUCE BRALEY
SERVING IOWA'S 1ST
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT



Congressman Bruce Braley: Fighting to Expand Children's Health Care

The House Health Reform Bill, HR 3962, will help make sure that families can afford health care coverage, and that their children are covered. The bill will:

- **Lower the cost of health care through Affordability Credits** for families at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level, which equates to an income of \$88,000 for a family of four. These families will receive a new tax credit to purchase health insurance.
- **Health coverage for those who need it most**, at 150% of Federal Poverty Level or less – anyone making less than \$33,000 for a family of four will have health coverage
- **Lower the cost of coverage** through greater choice for purchasing insurance. More competition in the insurance industry = lower cost & better service
- **Better access to care** by recruiting more health care professionals to Iowa, including more pediatricians

Rep. Braley successfully fought to expand health care for children and Iowa's Hawk-i program

- Rep Braley has voted repeatedly to expand and fully fund the State Children's Health Insurance Program (S-CHIP), which funds Iowa's Hawk-i children's health care program. He has spoken out, sent letters, cosponsored bills, and cast votes to make up for past funding shortfalls, fully fund the current program, and double the number of children with health insurance. Rep. Braley succeeded in his efforts when he helped pass into law HR 2, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act, to provide health care to 11 million children.

Rep. Braley authored and introduced HR 2322, the Healthy Food Choices for Kids Act, to teach children about nutrition, make them aware of what they're eating, and keep them healthy

- This bill, introduced by Rep. Braley on May 7, 2009, is designed to improve nutrition in schools by posting nutrition information, developing nutrition information awareness programs, and consulting with school nutrition experts to provide guidance on schools' nutrition programs.

Rep. Braley helped pass the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act into law, and is now working to fund the program

- Congressman Braley co-sponsored and supported the *Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2007* which established new research and treatment programs in the area of pediatric cancer. The *Conquer Childhood Cancer Act* requires the Director of the NIH to establish programs of research excellence in the area of pediatric cancers. The bill also develops a grant program for the establishment of research fellowships in Pediatric Cancers to support adequate numbers of pediatric focused clinical and translational investigators. This bill passed into law with Rep. Braley's support.
- Now Rep. Braley is working to fund the bill, and in April 2009 sent a letter to his House Colleagues encouraging them to fully fund the *Conquer Childhood Cancer Act*.

Rep. Braley is fighting to expand vision care for children as a cosponsor of HR 577, the Vision Care for Kids Act of 2007

- Rep. Braley is a cosponsor of this bill, to establish a grant program to states to help fund efforts to provide eye care to children. This legislation would greatly expand vision care for children in Iowa and other states.

Rep. Braley is fighting for Iowa's Dental Home Project (I-Smile) to provide dental care to Iowa children

- Rep. Braley is fighting for federal funding for this project, to ensure that thousands of Iowa children are provided with dental screenings and preventive, diagnostic, treatment, and emergency dental services.

In the 110th Congress, Rep. Braley cosponsored HR 2472, the Essential Oral Health Care Act, which increases Medicaid and SCHIP funding for children's dental services and oral health

- The bill will improve the federal funding match for children's dental and oral health services under Medicaid and SCHIP for states that ensure children have access to dental care, decrease administrative barriers to dentists, and increase payments for dental services under State plans.